

# Private Well Program

## *Eighth Annual Report 2006–2007*

### **Introduction**

About 680,000 South Carolina residents depend on individual residential wells for their water needs. Groundwater from individual wells is a safe, reliable source of water as long as the well is properly constructed. The purpose of the Private Well Program is to help ensure that this is the case.

### **Permitting**

August 24, 2007, marked the eighth anniversary of the Private Well Program at DHEC. During the eighth year, 6,860 Notices of Intent were submitted for residential wells and 2,976 for irrigation wells, for a total of 9,836 wells. Charleston County was the busiest, with more than 800 approvals issued. Lexington County and York County were next, with more than 700 approvals each.

### **Fees**

The fees collected during fiscal year 2007 totaled \$472,900 for residential wells and \$140,950 for irrigation wells. This totals \$613,850 for the year. These fees are the sole source of funding for the Private Well Program and support permitting and technical personnel, EQC well inspectors and operating expenses.

### **Inspections**

The DHEC Well Inspectors conducted 3,507 inspections during the eighth year of the program. A majority of the wells inspected were found to be in compliance with the *Well Standards*, R.61-71. Enforcement action was brought against drillers whose wells were not in compliance. During the reporting period, three Consent Orders were issued that included civil penalties of \$7,058.

